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There is tin also at Lo-chu Hsiang in District No One of Hsin-hsing Hsien. The various hsiens also have reserves of gold, molybdenum, manganese, lead, iron, and coal, which the Nonferrous Metals Control Bureau is now prospecting.

QUOTAS PASSED IN ESSENTIAL METALS -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 16 Aug 50

Hankow, 15 August (Hsin-hua) -- Purchase and production quotas of the Nonferrous Metals Control Bureau, Department of Heavy Industry, Central and South China Military and Administrative Committee for the first 6 months, in the four essential metals -- wolfram, antimony, tin, and manganese -- have been exceeded. Production data, in percent of the quotas, are as follows: wolfram-bearing earth, 103 percent; pure antimony, 133 percent; pure tin, 149 percent. Figures on manganese-bearing earth are available only from the Hsiang-t'an and Lo-p'ing mines; they show 152-percent production.

Nonferrous mining areas are well dispersed throughout the Central and South China District. The products are complex and extraction methods are primitive. Private enterprises outnumber national enterprises. To meet the nation's needs, it will be necessary to give strong support to private production and purchase its products. Leadership has been inadequate in these respects, with the result that the first-period figures have adversely affected the completion of the whole quota. Thus, although the Kiangsi Branch Bureau completed and exceeded its first-quarter production quota, the combined totals for production and purchase come to only 85 percent of the whole quota. Private mining enterprises in Hunan and Kiangsi provinces have recovered 70-80 percent of their pre-liberation production.

NEW COPPER MINES IN NORTHEAST -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 26 Aug 50

Mukden, 25 July (Hsin-hua) -- Mining achievements in the Northeast non-ferrous metals industry have shown that, contrary to former belief, the Northeast area has rich copper reserves. This affords a new long-range outlook for the development of industry. Within the past 6 months, eight new copper mines have been opened. Rich reserves of wolfram and nickel have been found at each site. Prospecting has been completed at five of the six sites and the total store of copper-bearing ore has been estimated at several million tons. At present, 13 nonferrous metal mines in the Northeast are regularly producing copper, lead, molybdenum, gold, and other products. Under the Japanese, the facilities had been simple and crude, and 80 percent of the equipment was damaged around V-J Day. These mines are now being rebuilt from the ruins by the Northeast People's government. According to calculations based on the pure copper contained in the ore, production during the first half of 1950 is already 35 percent above the entire output in 1949 and the ore-dressing capacity is two-fifths higher than it was under the Manchurian puppets.

Wen-hui Pao Editor's Note: Nonferrous metals occupy an important position today, thanks to modern chemical engineering, in the production of such essential substances as wolfram steel, high-speed steels containing wolfram, molybdenum, and chromium, etc. The Northeast Nonferrous Metals Control Bureau estimates that the deposits that have been discovered will gradually meet the demands of economic reconstruction and development.

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GROUP SEEKS PETROLEUM RESERVES IN NORTHWEST -- Hong Kong Hsing-tao Jih-pao,
9 Jul 50

A Petroleum Prospecting Battalion has been formed, as a vanguard for the development of the Northwest. A spokesman for this group claims that over 90 percent of China's petroleum reserves lie in the Northwest and that signs of oil have been found at 60 places, in strata near the earth's surface, where it could be obtained from a depth of 100 meters or more. He further stated that there were large areas of psammitic oil shale in the Northwest Provinces.

This group left on 15 June for a 3-month tour, planning to return to Sian in September. The party consists of some 30 technicians including petroleum geologists and topographers representing a concentration of the nation's technical genius in the field of petroleum geology. The group includes: Geologist Chang Keng (2), formerly chief, Geological Research Office, KMT Government Central Research Institute; Chou Tsung-ling (3), astronomical surveyor; and Wang Kang-tao (4), gravimetric engineer.

According to 1949 data, production met only 9 percent of the demand for petroleum and, as in the past, China had to look to foreign oil. China's petroleum industry has suffered at the hands of scalpers and feudalists, both domestic and foreign. The great Northwest will doubtless be the base for the reconstruction of industry, and there are plans to explore for new oil fields in accordance with a decision made at the recent National Petroleum Industry Conference in Peiping.

The Yu-men oil field, in the northwest section of Kansu, first went into operation in 1938. At present there are 34 wells, and the gasoline yield is 38 percent of capacity. Owing to ruthless exploitation in recent years, nine of the wells now issue large quantities of natural gas and very little oil. These wells are always kept capped. There are only five wells in Szechwan, in Lung-ch'an Hsien and Pa Hsien. The Japanese drilled over 80 wells in the Fou-hsien district of Northeast China but the production now is very meager.

NATIONAL PETROLEUM INDUSTRIES EXCEED 6-MONTH QUOTAS -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 31 Aug 50

Peiping, 30 August (Hsin-hua) -- The nationally operated petroleum industry throughout the nation surpassed its production quotas for the first 6 months of 1950 in essential products as well as in the field of basic reconstruction and prospecting. The quality of the product has also improved.

During the first 6 months of the year, gasoline output at the Yu-men oil field came to 53 percent of the quota for the whole year, and represented 127.1 percent of the amount produced in the first half of 1949. Kerosene production amounted to 68.6 percent of the total 1950 estimate, and represented 140 percent of the corresponding figure for 1949.

At the Yen-ch'ang oil field, gasoline output for this period was 87.9 percent of the whole year's estimates, while the amount of kerosene produced came to 105.6 percent of the quota for all of 1950.

The Fou-shun Oil Plant produced 53.7 percent of its 1950 quota of gasoline and 56 percent of the year's Diesel oil quota.

The Yu-men oil field has completed 60 percent of its 1950 plans for new wells. The Fou-shun Oil Plant has completed 60-70 percent of its ten major recovery projects.

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Under the direct or indirect leadership of the Ministry of Fuel Industry of the Central People's government, prospecting activities are progressing on or ahead of schedule in all areas.

The various oil fields and plants have successfully raised the quality of their products by eliminating waxes, gums, and sulfur in the production process. The Fou-shun Oil Plant has devoted a great deal of energy to improving the quality of gasoline and kerosene and has begun to produce various types of lubricating oil. Transformer oil made at the plant is effectively resistant to 30,000 volts of high-tension current.

YU-MEN PRODUCES MACHINE OIL -- New York Hsin-pao, 29 Jul 50.

Peiping -- The Yu-men oil field in Kansu Province reports that the oil refinery, operating less than a year, began on 24 April to produce machine oil. The product is free of moisture and crystallized waxes, and meets the standards of quality.

Under the leadership of democratic organization, this refinery has increased its over-all production rate by 50 percent. By 1 May 1950, 500 workers at the refinery had received merit awards.

CHARACTERS

1. 滿慶田
2. 張 更
3. 周宗凌
4. 王鋼道

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